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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Bulgarian Order of Battle: Army Units in Plevna and Nevrokop 2. The 1 Army Hospital in Plevna 3. The Musomishite Irrigation System	DATE DISTR.	15 September 1953
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

The 39 Infantry Regiment in Nevrokop

1. During 1947-48, the 39 Infantry Regiment was located in Nevrokop and was quartered in the city's new barracks. It was attached to 7 Infantry Division at Dupnitsa. The regiment consisted of approximately 970 men, 50 noncommissioned officers, and 35-40 officers, and was composed of:

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- a. A regimental staff;
- b. Two infantry battalions; and
- c. One specialized battalion.

2. These battalions, in turn, were composed of:

- a. Four infantry companies;
- b. Two heavy machine gun companies;
- c. One antitank battery;
- d. One mountain battery;
- e. One mortar battery;
- f. One communications company;
- g. One supply company;

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- h. One musicians platoon; and
- i. Four workshops (carpenters, blacksmiths, etc.)
3. During 1946-47, the following officers were serving with 39 Infantry Regiment:
- a. Lieutenant Colonel TSVETKOV (fnu), from Sofia; discharged in the summer of 1947;
[redacted]
 - b. Captain KUNCHEV (fnu), [redacted] political commissar and later regimental commander
[redacted]
 - c. Lieutenant ARSOV (fnu), [redacted] chief of supply [redacted]
 - d. Junior Lieutenant Krum STAYKOV [redacted] food supply officer; [redacted]
 - e. Captain KASHIKEEV (fnu), commander of 1 Infantry Battalion [redacted]
 - f. Captain KUNEV (fnu), commanding officer of the Specialized Battalion [redacted]
[redacted] was an officer prior to 1944; also commanding officer of the mountain battery;

4. Each infantry company subordinate to 39 Infantry Regiment was composed of approximately 67 men, one company sergeant, two platoon noncommissioned officers, one company commanding officer, and two platoon commanding officers. Each infantry company was equipped as follows:

- a. Four "Bren" light machine guns;
- b. Sixteen "Schmeizer" submachine guns; and
- c. Approximately 45 "Malnicher" rifles.

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The company also had the following equipment in its stores:

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- a. Five or six "Malnicher" rifles;
- b. Four "Schmeizer" submachine guns;
- c. Two cases of ammunition of various calibers; and
- d. Two cases of hand grenades.

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5. The antitank unit, strength approximately 42 men, was commanded by three officers, one company sergeant, and two platoon noncommissioned officers. [redacted] the following three members of this unit:

- a. Lieutenant PETROV (fnu), battery commanding officer; [redacted]
- b. Junior Lieutenant DELIBALTOV (fnu), platoon leader of 1 Platoon; was an officer prior to 1944 [redacted]
- c. Officer Candidate Dimitar SHOBANOV [redacted] Nevrokon Okoliya; platoon leader of 2 Platoon [redacted]

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6. The antitank battery was equipped as follows:

- a. Four 50 mm. "Rheinmetall" guns;
- b. Four "Bren" light machine guns;
- c. Four "Walter" pistols;
- d. Four "Schmeizer" submachine guns; and
- e. Approximately 30 "Malnicher" rifles.

NOTE: The "Rheinmetall" guns were transferred to the unit from the 1 Army Antitank Regiment at Dupnitsa. The guns replaced 35 mm. "Shkoda" antitank guns. During 1947, the antitank regiment had four battalions each composed of four batteries. Three battalions were located at Dupnitsa while the fourth was at Sveti Vrach.

7. The antitank battery was also equipped with following reserve supply:

- a. Approximately eight "Malnicher" rifles;
- b. Four "Schmeizer" submachine guns;
- c. Two cases of grenades; and
- d. Two cases of ammunition of various caliber.

8. The heavy machine gun company was composed of approximately 60 men, and commanded by three officers, one sergeant, and two noncommissioned officers. The company was equipped as follows:

- a. Two "Schwarz Loze" heavy machine guns;
- b. Two "Shpandau" heavy machine guns;
- c. Four "Sudayev" submachine guns; and
- d. Approximately 50 "Malnicher" rifles.

9. The mortar battery was composed of approximately 50 men, and commanded by three officers, one sergeant, and two noncommissioned officers. The commanding officer of this unit was Junior Lieutenant Khristyū (lnu)



10. The mortar battery was equipped as follows:

- a. Four large Soviet mortars;
- b. Four "Walther" pistols;
- c. Four "Schmeizer" submachine guns; and
- d. Approximately 45 Malnicher rifles.

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11. The Regimental Communications Company consisted of 80 men, and the Supply Company was composed of 50 men, one officer, a Sergeant, and two noncommissioned officers. The Musicians Platoon was composed of approximately 15 noncommissioned officers and one captain. Approximately 28 men worked in the regimental workshops.

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12. The regimental ammunition dump was located in the camp area and consisted of one small building six meters long, five meters wide, and three meters high, without windows. The door to the building was locked and guarded at all times.
13. A reinforced concrete bunker with two openings was located on a height approximately 500 meters north of the camp area.
14. During 1950, the regiment was transferred to Simitli (N 41-53, E 23-06). At present it is located at the artillery barracks approximately four kilometers from Breznik (N 42-46, E 22-53).

Military Units in Pleven (July 1947)

15. As of July 1947, the following Army units were located at an Army camp in the southern section of Pleven, near the road to Lovech:
 - a. The 4 Army Engineers Regiment;
 - b. The 4 Army Communications Regiment;
 - c. The 7 Trudovak Regional Command (Oblast);
 - d. The 1 Army Hospital, with a school for noncommissioned officer medics.
16. As of July 1947, the 4 Infantry Regiment was located at barracks in the center of Pleven and the 4 Army Artillery Regiment was located at barracks in the western section of Pleven.¹

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The 1 Army Hospital and NCO Training School in Pleven (July 1947)

17. The 1 Army Hospital in Pleven is the former 9 Divisional Hospital, Pleven. The hospital is in an Army camp area in the southern end of Pleven on the Lovech highway. The hospital is divided into four sections as follows:
 - a. Internal section;
 - b. X-ray section;
 - c. Surgical section; and
 - d. Skin and venereal diseases section.
18. The hospital has approximately eight wards with five to six beds in each ward. The number of beds can be doubled in cases of emergency. According to health requirements, each patient should be allowed 21 cubic meters of air and one-sixth of the wall space should be made up of windows. The air space per man at the 1 Army Hospital was approximately 15 cubic meters and there were not enough windows. During 1947, the hospital was not fully occupied.
19. The hospital staff consisted of the following:
 - a. Six doctors;
 - b. Five or six nurses;
 - c. Seven or eight helpers; and
 - d. Three or four administrative helpers.
20. Informant knew of the following personnel at the 1 Army Hospital:
 - a. Colonel YONCHEV, commanding officer of the hospital;
 - b. Sergeant MIRCHEV;

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- c. Sergeant PETROV;
 - d. Medical Captain MANOLOV (fnu), X-ray specialist; 50X1-HUM
 - e. Medical Captain IVANOV (fnu), internal specialist; and 50X1-HUM
 - f. Doctor GENCHEV (fnu), surgeon.
21. The hospital was poorly organized and often lacked pharmaceutical products which had to be ordered from Sofia. The products which were most scarce were calcium gliconate (sic), neo-salvarsan, and ultraseptil. Food at the hospital was satisfactory.
 22. The hospital warehouse included 20 sets of field aid stations (tents). Each of these stations included 20 beds, two stoves, and a folding floor-mat. The tents were approximately 15 x 6 meters in size, and five meters high in the center.
 23. A school for training noncommissioned officer medics was attached to the 1 Army Hospital. The training course comprised a 7-month curriculum [redacted] and had 75 noncommissioned officers chosen from all types of services with the exception of the Trudovaks. These had a similar school at Shumen.
 24. At the completion of their training, the men were sent to regimental aid stations as candidate noncommissioned officer medics. The four men who completed the course with the highest grades had the privilege of choosing their post. The graduates received diplomas as medics and the noncommissioned grade after a 3-month successful completion of internship with their unit. The diplomas were issued by the Pleven school. In certain cases noncommissioned officers who had served efficiently for over two years were recalled for supplementary training at the 7 Divisional Hospital in Dupnitsa. After successful completion of the course, they were appointed heads of regimental aid stations with the rank of Junior Lieutenant.
 25. The following subjects were taught at the Pleven Noncommissioned Officers Training School;
 - a. Anatomy;
 - b. Physiology;
 - c. Pathology;
 - d. Army Medical Corps duties in all services during peace time;
 - e. Army Medical Corps duties in all services during war time;
 - f. Latin;
 - g. Pharmaceutical nomenclature;
 - h. Internal Diseases;
 - i. Bandaging;
 - j. Urinary and sex organs diseases;
 - k. Topography;
 - l. Eyes, ears, and throat diseases;
 - m. Surgery;
 - n. Tactics and movement with first aid equipment;

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- o. Orthopedics;
 - p. Hygiene;
 - q. Skin and venereal diseases;
 - r. Stretcher bearing and transporting of wounded;
 - s. Health Service in the USSR;
 - t. Medical Corps Service in the West (Germany);
 - u. Medical Corps organization above company level; and
 - v. Drill.
26. The students had to take a written examination in all of the subjects listed in Para. 25 above at the end of each month. They were graded on the 12-point system. The students had five hours of theory every morning and three hours of practical training in the afternoon. The latter was carried out at the 1 Army Hospital and at the First and Second City Hospitals.
27. At the completion of training, the students were subjected to an examination in front of a 4-man commission consisting of the commanding officer and of a few doctors, (Dr. IVANOV (fnu), Dr. PETROV (fnu), and, during 1947, Dr. Petur KOLAROV, at present Minister of Health.) The exam lasted 15 days.
28. The commanding cadre of the school consisted of seven officers and five non-commissioned officers. During 1947, the following officers were part of the cadre:
- a. Lieutenant Colonel DIMCHEV (fnu) [] company commanding officer; 50X1-HUM
 - b. Lieutenant NEDYALCHEV (fnu) [] platoon commanding officer;
 - c. Junior Lieutenant Georgi TOMOV [] section commander []
 - d. Junior Lieutenant YANAKIEV [] section commander.
29. The following men were instructors at the school during 1947: 50X1-HUM
- a. Medical Colonel YONCHEV (fnu) [] was the commanding officer of 1 Army Hospital and instructor in Army Medical Corps duties; 50X1-HUM
 - b. Dr. GENCHEV [] surgery; 50X1-HUM
 - c. Dr. PETROV (fnu), sergeant, [] bandaging; 50X1-HUM
 - d. Dr. ESHKENAZI (fnu) [] orthopedics;
 - e. Dr. MIRCHEV (fnu) [] from Pavlikeni; urinary and sex organs diseases;
 - f. Dr. DUBNISHKI (fnu) [] from Pleven; eye, ear, and throat diseases;
 - g. Medical Captain MANOLOV (fnu) [] skin and venereal diseases;
 - h. Junior Lieutenant Georgi TOMOV [] from Pleven; topography; and
 - i. Junior Lieutenant GEROV (fnu) [] drill.
30. All men in the training school were equipped with the weapons assigned to them in their original units.

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The Musomishte Irrigation System (15 May 1953)

31. During the spring of 1952, work started on the construction of a new irrigation system in the Musomishte (N 41-33, E 23-47), Nevrokop Okoliya, area. A pump station was constructed approximately 20 meters south of the Toplika canal. The pump's pressure is to be 27 atmospheres. The pressure will be increased if the project is expanded as planned.
 32. A channel built of concrete pipe 40 centimeters in diameter will carry the water from the pump station to the top of a small height approximately 150 meters distant. This channel has been completed. Irrigation channels beginning at the top of the height will carry the water throughout the farm area. These channels are now under construction. A pipe line carrying water from the Mesta River to the pump station is also under construction.
 33. According to plans, the irrigation system should be completed and operating by August 1953. The system will irrigate approximately 500 decares of farmland in the Musomishte area and a section of unknown size in the Nevrokop farmland area.
1. Comment: It is realized that this Bulgarian order of battle is quite old, but it is being disseminated for any use it may have for background information.

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